Removing Laser Singe Stain From White to Pale Fabrics

The help that laser cutting fabrics is both a blessing and a curse. White to light color fabrics will always have a hint of singe.

Sometimes it can be more apparent than others depending on if it is pure white to the pale grays and the weather can affect how the laser is cutting. Usually it is not noticeable when the fabric is aligned with a darker fabric, but if it's next to another light piece it can be much more noticeable.

It's best to remove the majority of any singe tint before assembly. After assembly it's a little harder and it seems the heat from the iron can make it more noticeable.

Don't worry, water will not remove the adhesive.

Washing Before Assembly

Supplies:

- *Large Piece of baking parchment*
- *Iron, Heat Safe Surface*
- *(1) Bath/Hand Towel, (1) Washcloth, white/beige or Paper Towels*
- *Large Bowl, Warm Water, Dawn Dish Soap, if fabric is pure white, 1/2 cap of bleach or if light colors a color safe bleach*

Step 1: Number your pieces on the paper back.

Step 2: Leave on sheet if small, or snip free from sheet for larger pieces.

Step 3: Prepare warm bowl of water with a squirt of Dawn dishwashing soap large enough to soak the cut pieces of appliqué without folding them up. Add a 1/2 cap of bleach for white fabric, or a color safe bleach for light colors.

You do not need to remove the paper back this will help with keeping the edges from fraying.

Step 4: Fold bath/hand towel at least once, keep large enough to lay the biggest appliqué piece flat.

Step 5: Place baking parchment on a heat safe surface next to your iron.

Step 6: Check pieces edge coloring against a white piece of paper for reference. Place cut piece in water until saturated. Swish around a little. Do not rub the edges.

Step 7: Remove, place on towel and blot with washcloth.

Step 8: Press, fabric side up on top of parchment, with medium heat iron. This will dry your piece (this is to keep the ink number on the back from getting onto your ironing board or mat)

Check results of dry piece against a white surface. If it had heaving toning, it should be very light now.

Step 9: There will always be a hint. I will show less also after removed from the fabric sheet. Repeat as needed.

Washing After Assembly

Step 1: Dampen a washcloth with just warm water and Dawn. Thoroughly wet the tinted edges. Let stand for a minute or two.

Step 2: Blot with Paper Towel. DO NOT RUB, Repeat as necessary using a clean portion of the paper towel after a few blots to keep from re- applying any residue it picks up.

NOTE: It does not remove as much if done after assembly, but it does remove a noticeable amount.

I do not wash any of my designs as they are "Art Quilts" for the wall. The detail of the fabric cutting makes this problematical as the agitation can be rough enough to break small pieces free.

You would want to do an overall quilting, not necessarily following the edges of the pieces, but at least have a thread going through each piece. If anything does come loose, you can press it flat again with a hot iron.

Questions?

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